

Cat Chat

Harlow, Epping Forest & District

June/July 2016



Dear Supporters

Infrastructure news: all the cabins are now in place, with Carole and Frank's double unit dismantled and moved to Sarah's to replace her leaky old double which was demolished with



gusto over the Bank Holiday weekend. Elsewhere in this issue we have a competition to name our cabins, so that our Cabin Sponsors can be properly allocated a cabin and follow the progress of its residents.

Sue and Roger have kindly agreed to host a large shed in their garden to be used as storage, which will recoup its cost in about a year compared with lock-up garage rental. Having sorted out the storage, and with volunteer Susan Eggleton gearing up to do boot sales, we are now in a position to accept donated goods for sale. Please contact Jackie Horrigan (see page 6).

Sue Harris
Coordinator

We still need people to help with fundraising.

**Please see Jackie Horrigan's article
on page 2**



FOR YOUR DIARY

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| ✔ Friday 3 June - Sunday 5 June | Pets at Home, Harlow Store. Information stand and sale of CP goods as part of Pets at Home's national Cats Protection weekend. |
| ✔ Saturday 4 June | Charity Car Park, Harlow College, Town Centre, Harlow |
| ✔ Sunday 3 July | Epping Town Show, Stonards Hill Recreation Ground
12 noon to 5pm |
| ✔ Saturday 10 September | Bucket Collection, Asda Store Foyer, The Water Gardens, Harlow |

FUNDRAISING

The dates for our confirmed fund raising events are listed on page 1. As most of these are outdoors, fingers crossed that the sun is shining, or at least the rain stays away!

The Epping Town Show should be good fun with lots of stalls, show ring and, I believe, fairground attractions. It has been a while since we had a stall at this event, so please do come along and join in the fun; it would be so lovely to meet and have a chat.

Our stall will comprise craft items, along with items for sale from the Cats Protection catalogue (there are some great gift ideas). We have two very generous supporters in **Helen and Myra** who make the majority of our craft items - so please look out for our gazebo with our CP logo.

We also have the marvellous **Emily Wright** attempting the Ben Nevis challenge on Saturday 2 July on behalf of our Branch - donations can be made at <https://www.justgiving.com/Emily-WrightPF/>.

Volunteers are still desperately needed for the Charity Car Park Bucket Collection at Harlow College on Saturday 4 June and for Harlow Pets at Home Weekend 3 to 5 June. If you can help at all, please let me or Sue Harris know via phone or email (see page 6).

Jackie Horrigan
Fundraising Officer



NAME THAT CABIN COMPETITION



As you all know, we have had a lot of changes at our Branch recently and we now have several new fosterers, all with new pens. It has been our tradition to name our pens but at the moment we only have two named and another seven that need naming. As we are always on the lookout to raise some much needed funds, we thought it would be a good idea to have a competition among our members to name the new cabins, with a donation of £2 for every suggestion - or 3 suggestions for £5. The prize is knowing your name was chosen and seeing it on the cabin courtesy of our Treasurer's pyrographic skills; for those who don't win, you know

your donation has gone to a very good cause.

If you would like to take part, please send your suggestion(s), along with any background/reasons for your choice, and a cheque (payable to **Cats Protection**) to the PO Box listed on page 6. **Closing date is 30 June 2016.**

We look forward to receiving LOTS of interesting suggestions.

Sue Rose

VETS 4 PETS DONATION

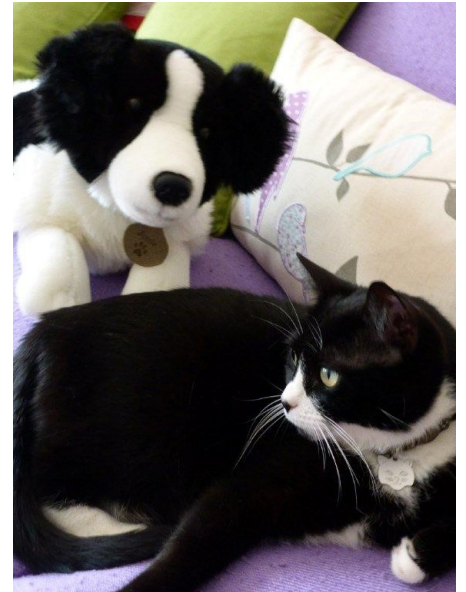


Vets4Pets in Bishop's Stortford, recently established in Pets at Home, have generously donated £300 to us to help with our neutering programme, which helps people on restricted incomes with the costs of neutering. This will help us neuter at least 10 cats, so many thanks to them.

PEPSI'S PROGRESS

Here's a picture of me in one of my favourite spots - Kathy's couch. I expect you've noticed I'm not alone. "Who is this, Pepsi?" I hear you ask - "Have you got a new friend?" The short answer is "No!" This unlikely creature is no friend of mine. Here's the story of how I came to share my couch with a stranger.

Kathy went to Wales a few weeks ago, and said she would bring me something exciting back. Well the large bag she brought home did look quite exciting at first - until she opened it. "Here you are" she said "meet Jessie the Welsh border collie - she's come to stay with us". Kathy promptly plonked a DOG down on my couch and she has been there ever since. Kathy laughed and said "I thought we needed a watch dog" Well, she's that all right - all she does is stare at me. I can feel her eyes boring into the back of my head - even when I am asleep. She does have a few points in her favour I suppose. She is black and white - always a good start - she is quiet, and she doesn't try and steal my food. I just wonder one thing though - WHEN IS SHE GOING HOME? Does anyone know which bus goes to Wales?



Pepsi

FELIX TOKENS



A very kind person sent me an envelope full of Felix Tokens to the PO Box address but didn't say who they were. Firstly, I'd like to say 'thank you' via Cat Chat but unfortunately I must now ask everyone not to send us any more as Felix have stopped taking them and no longer offer any freebies in return for them. We are very grateful to everyone who has sent us the tokens over the years but want to let everyone know that the scheme is now finished as we don't want you wasting precious money on postage. Thank you again.



Sue Rose



CAPTION COMPETITION : WHAT IS THE KITTEN SAYING?

We couldn't resist an excuse to show you a photo of this super-cutiepie, one of Mrs Hedges' four babies. He, along with his brothers and sister, have all found good homes.

Submit your thoughts on what he is saying by email to catsharlow@dsl.pipex.com or in writing to the branch address and have a chance of winning a Kong Kickeroo catnip toy for your feline friend.

Sue Harris

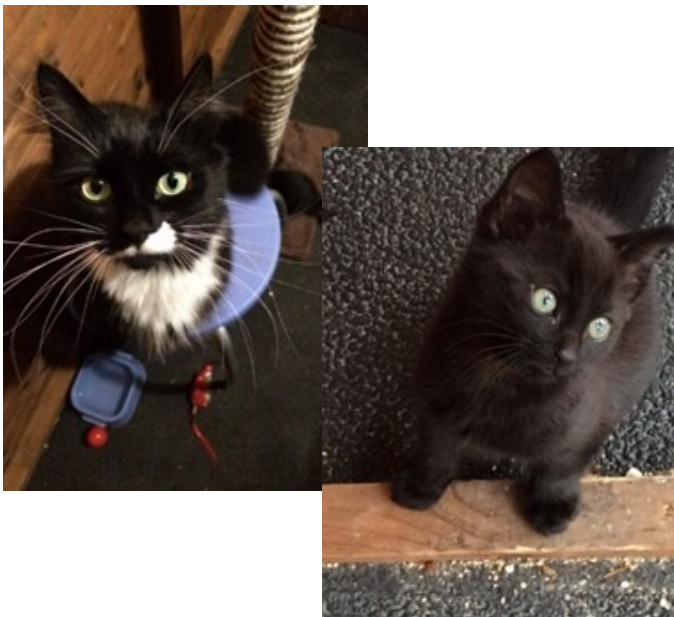
SOME CATS WE HAVE HELPED



Mrs Hedges : Mrs H was a pregnant stray tortie found under a hedge. She gave birth in March to two black and two ginger kittens (one of whom is featured in the Caption Competition on page 3) who have now been homed. One of the boisterous youngsters managed to rip her spaying scar but she has recovered and has a home lined up. Fostered by Peter.

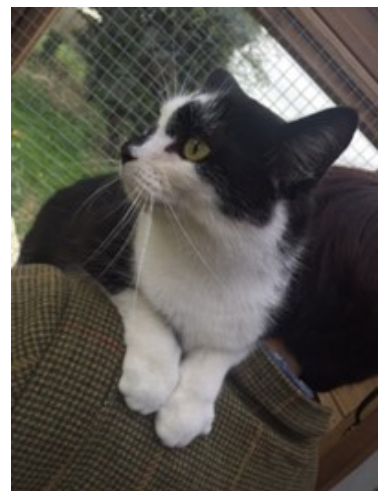


Miss Marble : Miss Marble was found with an eye injury after a road traffic accident and had to have her eye removed. She recovered well. She is a quite gentle girl who has found a loving home after spending some time with Sarah.



Maisie and Percy : Mother and No 1 (and only) son Percy were fostered by Anne-Marie and Simon. Percy, being a bouncy lad, drove Mum mad after a while in the way that adolescents do their parents but was soon homed, and Anne-Marie and Simon decided to adopt Maisie, who is s-lo-w-l-y adapting to life in a multi-cat household.

Bella : Beautiful Bella was Carolyn's first fosteree in Dunmow. She was a stray who turned out to be microchipped but there was no response from the recorded owner, so their loss will be someone's gain. She is a sweet, loving cat who's quite chatty. She just loves cuddles and fuss and purrs for England, and plays enthusiastically. She has now found a fantastic new home.



CABIN UPDATE (Cont'd from page 4)



Harry : Harry is a youthful six-to-eight year old who came to us as a stray. He was with us for a while but has now found a home where he can rule the roost: he's not keen on other cats. He's very playful and affectionate and on our Facebook page Lissa his fosterer has put some videos of him doing cute things.

Sue Harris

ALFIE'S STORY

This is a tale of how persistence and understanding is sometimes needed in order to secure a happy ending for cats and humans.

Alfie is deaf, as some white cats congenitally are, and, unneutered, was living indoors in a one-bedroom house with increasingly frail owners who were unable to cope. He came to us and was looked after by Sarah. He was a bit wary but did settle in the end to life in the cabin, but, like many deaf cats and perhaps because he has some oriental blood, he was noisy with a piercing miaow.

We were contacted by a CP volunteer in Ware who told us about Mark, who had lost his much-loved indoor cat of 15 years and was distraught, and missing feline company. Mark has a learning disability but lives on his own in a flat with the support of his mum, who is nearby. With some trepidation we thought we would try out Alfie as a companion for Mark, who came to see him at Sarah's and was much taken.



But Peter's journey to take Alfie to Ware and the first few days in his new home did not go well. Alfie cried loudly, all the time, and was confused by his new surroundings. Mark and his mum did not know what to do and Mark was upset and blaming himself. Peter stepped in: he took a kitten pen over as a secure bolt hole for Alfie, and Mark learned that he should gently touch Alfie for reassurance and ensure that he could be seen when approaching him. He should also put him in the kitten pen and ignore him at night. After a few days Alfie settled in, stopped crying and is now a happy cat whom Mark dotes on. Peter went back to check up and take Alfie for his second jab and all is well: the kitten pen is no longer needed.

For more information on deafness in cats:

http://www.cats.org.uk/uploads/documents/The_Cat_Mag_extracts/Deaf_cats.pdf

Sue Harris

NOTICEBOARD

Deadline for the next issue is 3 July. Articles etc by post or e-mail to Denise Williams (see below).

Please support the Cats Protection Lottery



Tel: 01628 825928, or direct from Branch website: <http://www.cats.org.uk/harlow/support-us/weekly-lottery/>

If you shop online....



Give as you Live®

...register to support Cats Protection Harlow, Epping Forest & District Branch at www.giveasyoulive.com/join/catsprotectionharlow

If you have any unwanted gifts, collectibles, jewellery, toys, scarves, shawls, bags, cat goods, china/glassware that we can offer for sale, please contact Jackie Horrigan on 07914 819474.

BRANCH CONTACTS

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